**Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.**—It is not a fact that no temporary license is given to jaggery tappers.

**Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.**—I wanted to know the number, but it is not forthcoming. Is it difficult to find the number?

**Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.**—In all cases jaggery tappers have been given temporary licenses.

**President.**—And how many cases will there be like that? How many persons have applied for jaggery licenses?

**Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.**—I think I have given it in answer to another question in 1101. Question 224. The number is 2,139.

**President.**—And you have given temporary licenses also?

**Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.**—Quite so.

## Petitions for jaggery tapping.

**212. Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.**—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) how many petitions for jaggery tapping were rejected by the Excise Department this year; how many men were on the whole included in those petitions; what were the reasons for their rejection;

(b) has the department prohibited whole villages from exercising this industry; were there not joint petitions from jaggery tappers from the villages of Varavur, Pilakkat and Talasseri for licenses; why were they not granted licenses?

**Mr. V. B. Vaidyanatha Ayyar.**—(a) 32 petitions were rejected this year till 20th Thulam 1102. 48 men were included therein. The reason for rejection was that the applicants were either old offenders against the Abkari Law who had not improved their character, or that they were on enquiry found to be tapping for fermented toddy, or had interest in the conduct of a toddy shop, or they were too old or physically disabled to climb trees themselves. In short, they were not found to be *bona fide* applicants, who will take to the profession honestly.

(b) The department has not now prohibited any village. But there existed complete prohibition in the village of Varavur from 1093 till last year for the reason that the locality, surrounded as it is on all sides by steep hills, formed the stronghold of abkari crimes, and instances of illicit distillation were of every day occurrence. The prohibition was withdrawn from last year. There were two joint petitions, one from Varavur in 1101, and the other from Pulakkad and Titchur in 1102. There were 41 applicants as per these two petitions, of whom licenses were sanctioned for 16 persons. The rest were not granted licenses,

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as they were either old offenders with bad character, or persons who were not *bona fide* applicants for jaggery. Some of these men were found on enquiry to be connected with fermented toddy tapping, some did not know tapping at all, while as many as 14 persons could not be found in the place, as they were reported to be engaged in some other work outside the place, and they did not also appear before the Inspector at the time of his enquiry.

## The Vadakkancheri High School.

**213. Mr. Chakko Cheruvattur.**—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) the total extent of the High School compound alone at Vadakkancheri, including the building site;

(b) the extent of land occupied by the building and that occupied by fenced-in and walled-in flower gardens;

(c) the balance of space unoccupied, to be utilised for the students' recreation during intervals of school hours;

(d) what is the total number of girl students in the High School classes alone of this school;

(e) is there any convenience afforded to these girls for moving about in the school, consistently with their modesty, among the grown-up boys;

(f) is not the school compound, as a whole, surrounded on two sides by busy streets and on other sides by private houses;

(g) does not the Government consider that the imprisonment of such youthful activity within the four walls of the school room is likely to be injurious to the students in their after life;

(h) has the Government any idea of extending the school compound in the near future;

(i) has the Head master of the aforesaid High School ever brought this circumstance to the notice of the Director;

(j) on what grounds did the Government overrule this primary requirement of this school?

**Mr. C. Matthai.**—(a) 89 cents.

(b) 43 cents and 14 cents respectively.

(c) 32 cents.

(d) 14.

(e) Yes, a waiting room is set apart for them.

(f) On the east and west are public roads, and on the other sides there are houses and the temple.

(g) There is plenty of space outside the four walls of the school rooms for the youthful activities of the pupils, besides other natural facilities close by.

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